

7/28/73

Ltr 7/25

Dear Barry,

FYI. I do not seek to embarrass that stuffed shirt C&M, who told a lawyer I asked to help me get this public information that public information or no public information, nix. Rather, his office did, after countless calls until he got the "right" person.

If the Department hasn't reformed with the departures of Mitchell and Klein-dienst, I have a long, dark path ahead. And all this was published.

Under the law, if you are not familiar with it, anyone is entitled to any government record, including copies, except where the records are exempt or where the exemption was waived, as in this case it was. Not just the press.

I think this is crazy and that it means Cox may work himself into other trouble, perhaps with the Department's help.

I also think I have some knowledge that most others do not have, specifically about Hunt and his Cubans. This is why I want a copy of the original, not someone else's transcription of it or transcription of a reading of it.

The same goes for the names in the addressbook. Ordinarily these people are entitled to privacy, but in use the government has waived this. I have seen pictures of some pages, published. It is not impossible that some of these people may have histories of which I am aware. Or can be.

Anyway, I am reminded of the early Kennedy books, one of more of which note that he managed to get into disputes with the others, the line people, so to speak. And of von Hoffman's column, which I wish I'd kept. Maybe somebody knew what he was doing.

Sincerely,

P.S. Explanation of my call early in the week on subpoenas and specifically Senate subpoenas, some of which I served and many of which I proofread when set in type. I have left messages with Maureen rather than interrupt you. At least in my day, the Senate used printed subpoena forms. One compelled attendance and the dures tecums required two things: attendance and delivery of described records. I know of no standard form that calls for delivery of records without personal attendance. Could be without my knowing. I had in mind that the need for a special subpoena could make you a story or a bureaucratic error could. I don't think the committee expected Nixon to appear and give up his records.